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## Screening without dynamical fermions

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INNOVATIVE ECONOMY  
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Foundation for Polish Science

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DEVELOPMENT FUND



- Screening with dynamical quarks
- Nontrivial spectra of two dimensional gauge theories
- Lattice: partition function and its continuum limit
- Adding external charges:
  - Wilson loops and Polyakov lines
  - continuum limit
  - interpretation
  - theta states
  - screening and effective fractional charge
- Fractional charges on a lattice and the new/classical continuum limit
- Nonabelian case

# I. Screening *with* dynamical fermions

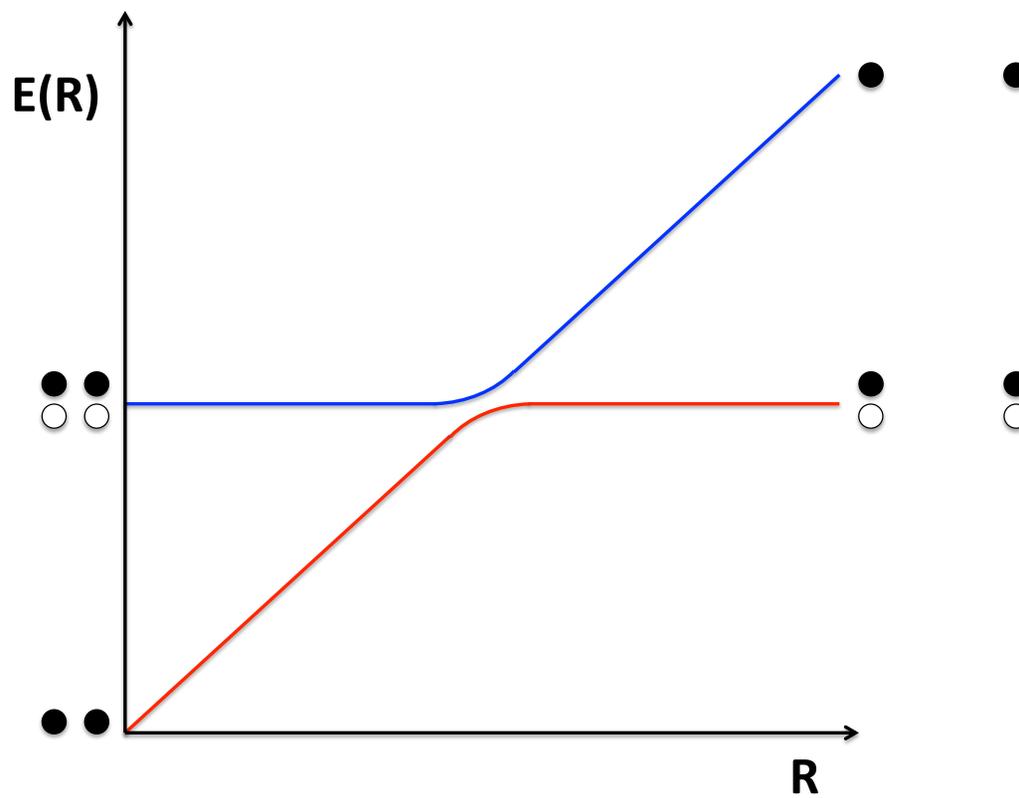


Figure 1:

## II. Nontrivial spectra of trivial gauge theories

- Two dimensional gauge theories are trivial - no transverse degrees of freedom.
- True only if we neglect boundary conditions.

Quantum Maxwell Dynamics in 1+1 dimensions ( $QMD_2$ ) on a circle

$$E_n = \frac{e^2}{2} L n^2, \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \quad [Manton, '84]$$

An effective 1DOF hamiltonian

$$H = -\frac{e^2}{2L} \frac{d^2}{dA^2}, \quad 0 \leq A < L_A = \frac{2\pi}{L} \quad (1)$$

The spectrum

$$\psi_n(A) = e^{inAL} = e^{ip_n A}, \quad p_n = n \frac{2\pi}{L_A} = nL, \quad E_n = \frac{e^2}{2} L n^2 \quad (2)$$

What is  $A$  ?

$$A_x(x, t) = A(x, t), \quad \xrightarrow{\partial_x A(x,t)=0} A(x, t) = A(t) \neq 0$$

In a periodic (in  $x$ ) world one cannot set a constant  $A$  to 0 by a gauge transformation  
– 1 DOF left

Why periodicity in  $A$  ?

If space is periodic, gauge transformations also have to be periodic (up to  $2\pi n$ )

$$g(x) = e^{i\Lambda(x)} = g(x + L), \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Lambda(x + L) = \Lambda(x) + 2\pi n$$

Take  $\Lambda(x) = 2\pi\frac{x}{L}$ , then

$$A \longrightarrow A + \partial_x \Lambda(x) = A + \frac{2\pi}{L}, \quad \text{are gauge equivalent} \implies A \in (0, \frac{2\pi}{L}]$$

**Interpretation**

- a string with  $n$  units of electric flux winding around a circle
- Gauss's law satisfied thanks to the nontrivial topology - topological strings
- electric charge even without electrons/sources !

**A generalization:  $\Theta$  parameter**

a)

$$H = -\frac{e^2}{2L} \left( \frac{d}{dA} + i\Theta L \right)^2,$$

$$E_n = \frac{e^2}{2} L(n + \Theta)^2, \quad \psi_n(A) = e^{inAL}$$

b)

$$\tilde{H} = -\frac{e^2}{2L} \frac{d^2}{dA^2},$$

$$E_n = \frac{e^2}{2} L(n + \Theta)^2, \quad \tilde{\psi}_n(A) = e^{i(n+\Theta)AL},$$

$$\tilde{\psi}_n(A) = e^{i\Theta AL} \psi_n(A)$$

**Interpretation:  $e\Theta$  – classic, constant electric field**

## II. $QMD_2$ on a lattice

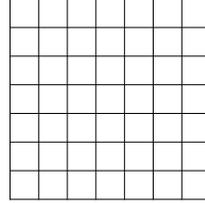


Figure 2:

### Partition function on a 2x2 lattice

$$Z = \int_0^{2\pi} B(\theta_{12} + \vartheta_{22} - \theta_{11} - \vartheta_{12}) B(\theta_{22} + \vartheta_{12} - \theta_{21} - \vartheta_{22}) \\ B(\theta_{11} + \vartheta_{21} - \theta_{12} - \vartheta_{11}) B(\theta_{21} + \vartheta_{11} - \theta_{22} - \vartheta_{21}) \\ d(\text{links})$$

$$B(\phi_P) = e^{\beta \cos(\phi_P)}, \quad d(\text{links}) = \prod_l \frac{d\alpha_l}{2\pi}$$

### A character expansion (Fourier analysis on a group)

$$B(\phi) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} I_n(\beta) \exp(in\phi),$$

### The partition function "almost" factorizes

$$Z = \sum_n I_n(\beta)^4 \longrightarrow \sum_n I_n(\beta)^{N_V}, \quad N_V = N_t * N_x.$$

## The continuum limit

$$Z = \# \sum_n \left( \frac{I_n(\beta)}{I_0(\beta)} \right)^{N_x N_t},$$

$$aN_t = T, \quad aN_x = L, \quad \beta = \frac{1}{e^2 a^2}, \quad a \rightarrow 0.$$

## Asymptotic expansion of modified Bessel function

$$I_n(\beta) \rightarrow \frac{e^\beta}{\sqrt{2\pi\beta}} \left( 1 - \frac{4n^2 - 1}{8\beta} + \dots \right)$$

gives

$$Z_{LQMD_2} \rightarrow \# \sum_n \left( 1 - \frac{e^2}{2} n^2 a^2 \right)^{N_x N_t} = \sum_n e^{-E_n T}, \quad E_n = \frac{1}{2} e^2 n^2 L,$$

→ Manton fluxes result in the continuum limit of lattice  $QMD_2$

## Emergence of a constant mode - Coulomb gauge on a lattice

A single row of  $N_x = 3$  horizontal links  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3$

A local gauge transformation specified by  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$

$$\theta_1 \rightarrow {}^g\theta_1 = \theta_1 + \alpha_1 - \alpha_2$$

$$\theta_2 \rightarrow {}^g\theta_2 = \theta_2 + \alpha_2 - \alpha_3$$

$$\theta_3 \rightarrow {}^g\theta_3 = \theta_3 + \alpha_3 - \alpha_1$$

or

$${}^g\theta_i = \theta_i + \beta_i, \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 \beta_i = 0$$

If we choose

$$\beta_1 = \frac{1}{3}(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) - \theta_1$$

$$\beta_2 = \frac{1}{3}(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) - \theta_2$$

$$\beta_3 = \frac{1}{3}(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) - \theta_3$$

then all new link angles are equal

$${}^g\theta_1 = {}^g\theta_2 = {}^g\theta_3 = \frac{1}{3}(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) \equiv \theta_{row}.$$

⇒ Only one degree of freedom remains

- Volume reduction

### III. Adding external charges

Wilson loops

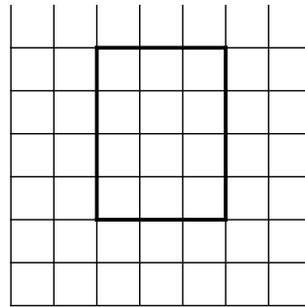


Figure 3:

$$W[\Gamma] = \prod_{l \in \Gamma} e^{i\theta_l} \quad (3)$$

$$Z \langle W \rangle = \sum_n I_n(\beta)^{N_x * N_t - n_x * n_t} I_{n+1}(\beta)^{n_x * n_t}. \quad (4)$$

### Time like Polyakov loops

$$Z \langle P^\dagger(1)P(1 + n_x) \rangle = \sum_n I_n(\beta)^{N_t * (N_x - n_x)} I_{n+1}(\beta)^{N_t * n_x}, \quad (5)$$

### Continuum limit

$$aN_t = T, \quad aN_x = L, \quad \beta = \frac{1}{e^2 a^2}, \quad a \rightarrow 0.$$

$$Z \langle P(0)^\dagger P(R) \rangle = \sum_n e^{-E_n^{PP} T}, \quad (6)$$

with

$$E_n^{PP} = \frac{e^2}{2} \left( n^2(L - R) + (n + 1)^2 R \right), \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \quad (7)$$

## A straightforward interpretation:

$$E_n^{PP} = \frac{e^2}{2} \left( n^2(L - R) + (n + 1)^2 R \right), \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \quad (8)$$

- Time like Polyakov lines modify Gauss's law at spatial points 0 and R - they introduce external unit charges at these positions.
- Such charges cause additional unit of flux extending over distance R.
- Hence the two contributions to the eigenenergies: an "old" flux over the distance  $L - R$  and the new one, bigger by one unit (fluxes are additive !), over  $R$ .
- Interesting special cases:
  - at large T the lowest,  $n = 0$  and  $n = -1$ , states dominate. Then we just have standard (unit flux) strings of length R and L-R,
  - $R = 0$  - old topological flux with charge n.
  - $R = L$  - when external charges meet at the "end point" of a circle, they annihilate ( $e^+ \delta_P(0) + e^- \delta_P(L) = 0$ ) and leave behind a topological string with length L and charge bigger by one unit.
- Varying R interpolates between integer valued topological fluxes.

## Equivalent form

$$E_n^{PP} = \frac{e^2}{2}L(n + \rho)^2 + \text{const.}(L, R), \quad \rho = \frac{R}{L}, \quad \text{const.} = \frac{e^2}{2}L\rho(1 - \rho) \quad (9)$$

- Indeed  $e\frac{R}{L}$  is the electric field, generated by two sources, *averaged* over the whole volume.
- The system does not see any distances,  $A_x(x) = \text{const.}$ , hence averaging over the volume.
- Changing  $R$  allows to mimic arbitrary real charge  $q = e(n + \rho)$ .
- Only  $[\rho]$  is relevant.

- $\Theta$  parameter acquires now a straightforward interpretation

$$\Theta_{Manton} = \rho = \frac{R}{L},$$

- A new constant term.

## $\Theta$ -vacua

- The transformation  $A \longrightarrow A + \frac{2\pi}{L}$  is a large gauge transformation,  $\Lambda(x) = \frac{2\pi x}{L}$ ,  $\Lambda(x + L) = \Lambda(x) + 2\pi$
- Full analogy 4D YM and/or the crystal : many classical configurations around which we can quantize
- $\Theta$  vacua:  $|\Theta\rangle = \sum_m e^{i\Theta m} |m\rangle$
- The wave function of a  $\Theta$ -state  $\psi_\Theta(x) = \langle x|\Theta\rangle$  satisfies  $\psi_\Theta(x - d) = e^{i\Theta} \psi_\Theta(x)$
- The solution ( Bloch theorem) :  $\psi_\Theta(x) = e^{i\Theta x/d} u_\Theta(x)$ , with periodic  $u_\Theta(x)$
- Our case:  $\psi_n(A) = e^{i(n+\rho)AL} = e^{i\rho AL} e^{inAL}$  is exactly of Bloch type upon identification  $x \rightarrow A$ ,  $d \rightarrow 2\pi/L$ ,  $\Theta \rightarrow 2\pi\rho$
- Introducing external charges fixes the  $\Theta$ -vacuum in  $QMD_2$ .
- D=4 : in a  $\Theta$ -vacuum some field configurations acquire electric charge [Witten '76].

## More, different charges

$R_2$  - distance between doubly charged sources

$R_1$  - distance between singly charged ones

$$Z \langle P(i)^\dagger P(j)^{2\dagger} P^2(j + n_2) P(i + n_1) \rangle =$$

$$\sum_n I_n(\beta)^{N_t(N_x - n_1)} I_{n+1}(\beta)^{N_t(n_1 - n_2)} I_{n+3}(\beta)^{N_t n_2},$$

- eigenenergies in the continuum limit

$$\begin{aligned} E_n^{PPPP} &= \frac{e^2}{2} (n^2(L - R_1) + (n + 1)^2(R_1 - R_2) + (n + 3)^2 R_2) \\ &= \frac{e^2}{2} L ((n + \rho_1 + 2\rho_2)^2 + \rho_1(1 - \rho_1) + 4\rho_2(2 - \rho_1 - \rho_2)) \end{aligned}$$

etc. 1 DOF quantum mechanical systems can be also readily constructed.

- This time  $\Theta = (R_1 + 2R_2)/L$ , i.e. it is again equal to the external field averaged over the whole volume.

## IV. Arbitrary charges on a lattice

Why? To learn about screening

Massive Schwinger model

$$\sigma_q = m e \left(1 - \cos \left(2\pi \frac{q}{e}\right)\right) \quad m/e \ll 1, \quad [\textit{Coleman et al.}, '75]$$

$\Rightarrow$  generalizations for large N  $QCD_2$ .

$\Rightarrow$  How to put arbitrary (noncongruent with  $e$ ) charges on a lattice?

- One way: as above  $q = e(n + R/L)$
- Another way: new observables

Wilson loops with arbitrary charge

$$Z\langle W_Q \rangle = \int (W[\Gamma])^Q e^{-S}, \quad Q = q/e$$

Contras:

gauge invariance – not if you carefully/consistently deal with multivaluedness

dependence on the boundaries in angular variables – not if you do loops

Pros:

Results are consistent ( $MC \leftrightarrow TH$ )

New structure appears  $QMD_2$

Why not !

## Q-loops theoretically

$$Z\langle W_Q \rangle = \sum_{m,n} I_n^{N_x N_t - n_x n_t} I_m^{n_x n_t} S(Q - m + n)^{n_x + n_t},$$

$$S(x) = \left( \frac{\sin \pi x}{\pi x} \right)^2$$

and "experimentally"

[P. Korcyl, M. Koren]

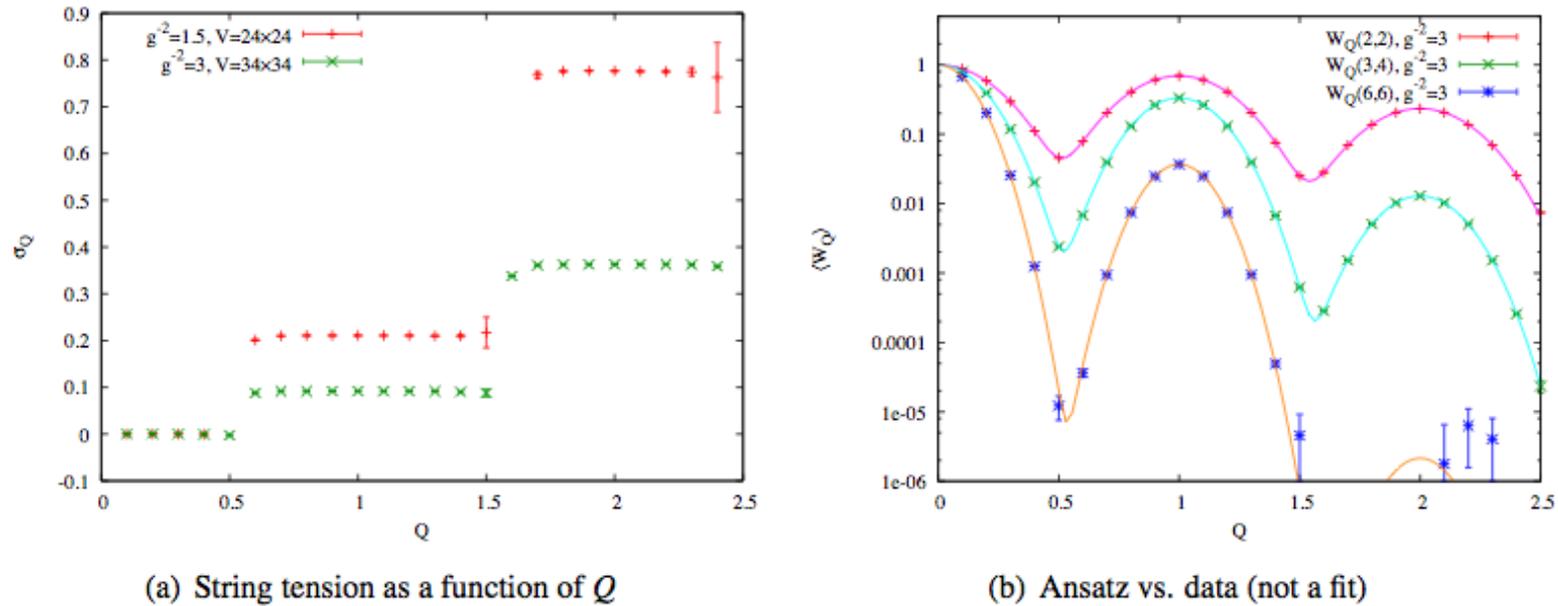


Figure 4:

- $Q$ -loops can be defined on a lattice - MC agrees with TH
- They *do not* create states with arbitrary charge
  - they excite the only existing quantum states with integer charges

## Continuum limit

$$Z\langle W_Q \rangle \longrightarrow \sum_{m,n} \exp\left(-\frac{e^2}{2}n^2L(T-t)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{e^2}{2}(n^2(L-R) + m^2R)t\right) S(Q - (n - m))^{(t+R)/a}$$

does not exist at fixed, not integer  $Q$ .

$\implies$  However the *classical* limit:

$Q \rightarrow \infty$ , with  $q = Qe - \text{fixed}$ , on a fixed lattice ( $a, N'$ s, *const.*)  
does exist!

Then  $\beta \equiv b^2 = 1/e^2 a^2 \rightarrow \infty$ , but not because  $a \rightarrow 0$ ,  
but because  $e \rightarrow 0$ .

The spectrum of fluxes becomes continuous:  $n \rightarrow u = n/b, m \rightarrow v = n/b$

Therefore ( $Q = q/e = \sqrt{\beta/\kappa} = b/g, g = 1/qa$ )

$$ZK_{\Pi QQ} = \beta \int dudv \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(u^2(N_x - n_x) + v^2 n_x)\right) \\ S(b(g^{-1} - (u - v)))^2 e^{ibu(\Theta_{L-R} - \Theta'_{L-R})} e^{ibv(\Theta_R - \Theta'_R)}$$

using

$$S(b\Delta) \xrightarrow{b \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{b} \delta(\Delta)$$

gives

$$ZK_{\Pi QQ} = \sqrt{\beta} \int du \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(u^2(N_x - n_x) + (u - g^{-1})^2 n_x)\right) \\ e^{ibu(\Theta_{L-R} - \Theta'_{L-R})} e^{ib(u - g^{-1})(\Theta_R - \Theta'_R)}$$

Now, do the gaussian integral, take the continuum limit to obtain

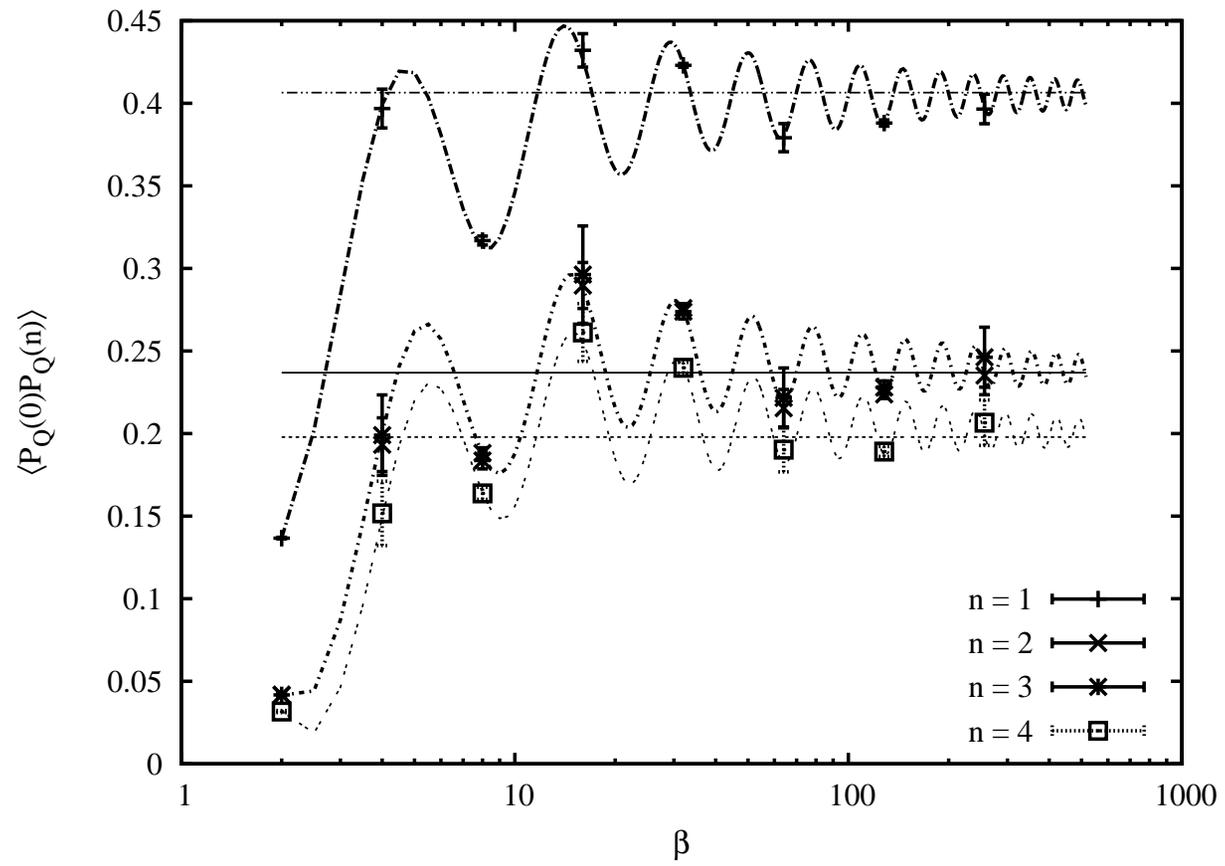
$$ZK_{\text{II}qQ} = \sqrt{\beta} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi a}{L}} \exp\left(-\frac{L(A - A')^2}{2a}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{q^2}{2}\rho(1 - \rho)La\right)$$

$\implies$  a free particle propagating over a time  $a$ , but in a constant background potential

$$V = \frac{q^2}{2}\rho(1 - \rho)L$$

with arbitrary, real value of a classical charge  $q$ .

- The classical energy with a continuous charge  $q$  results from the contribution of many microscopic states with discrete charges.
- the structure (zeroes of the string tension)



## V. Charge quantization

The connection between universality of a charge and compactness of a gauge group is general.

Also valid in our world (i.e. 3+1 QED) .

The same charge of  $e, \mu, p, \dots \longleftrightarrow U(1)$  gauge transformations are compact.

C. N. Yang, PRD **1** (1970) 2360.

## V. Nonabelian case: $YM_2$ on a circle

- Continuum: problem reduces to  $N$  constant in space, but constrained, angles  $\theta_i$ ,  $\sum_i \theta_i = 0$ .

Hamiltonian is again quadratic and the spectrum is known explicitly [Hetrick and Hosotani '89]

$$E_{\{n\}} = \frac{g^2 L}{4} \left( \sum_i n_i^2 - \frac{1}{N} (\sum_i n_i)^2 \right), \quad i = 1, \dots, N - 1$$

- Continuum: different spectrum was obtained by Rajeev:  $E_R = \frac{g^2 L}{2} C_2(R)$
- Discrepancy comes from the Casimir energy due to the curvature of the group manifold [Hetrick '93, Witten '91, '92]
- External charges in  $YM_2$  – studied by many [Semenoff et al. '97] but above interpretation in terms of screening was not.

EU grant (via Foundation for Polish Science)

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